

## THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Inventor(s): AVIDES MOREIRA et al.  
 Appln. No.: 09/ 801,090  
 Series Code ↑ Serial No. ↑

Filed: March 8, 2001

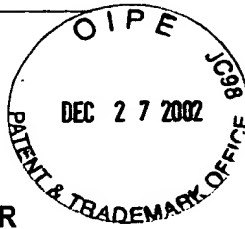
Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**REPLY/AMENDMENT/LETTER**

Date: December 27, 2002

Group Art Unit 1734  
 Examiner: Sue A. Purvis  
 Atty. Dkt. P 0278094 9780US  
 M# Client Ref  
 Appln. Title: CONNECTION WITH A COMPONENT  
 FABRICATED OF A THERMOPLASTIC  
 ELASTOMER



This is a reply/amendment/letter in the above-identified application and includes the herewith attachment of same date and subject which is incorporated hereinto by reference and the signature below is treated as the signature to the attachment in absence of a signature thereto.

**FEE REQUIREMENTS FOR CLAIMS AS AMENDED**

| 1. Small Entity claim  | Claims remaining after amendment | Highest number previously paid for | Present Extra  | Large/Small Entity | Additional Fee | Fee Code Lg/Sm                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|---|
| A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOT made<br>B. <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn<br>C. <input type="checkbox"/> made herewith<br>D. <input type="checkbox"/> made previously<br>For B & C See <b>Required Separate Paper</b> (Pat-256) | 14                               | **minus 20                         | 0              | x \$18/\$9 =       | + \$0          | 103/203   |
|  | 3                                | ***minus 3                         | 0              | x \$84/\$42 =      | + \$0          | 102/202   |
| 4. If amendment enters proper multiple dependent claim(s) into this application for first time (leave blank if this is a reissue application) .....  |                                  |                                    | add            | + \$280/\$140 =    | + \$0          | 104/204   |
| 5. <b>Original due Date:</b> January 4, 2003 <input type="checkbox"/> NONE   |                                  |                                    |                |                    |                |   |
| 6. <b>Petition is hereby made</b> to extend the original due date to cover the date this response is filed for which the requisite fee is attached   | (1 mo)                           | \$110/\$55 =                       |                |                    |                | 115/215   |
|  | (2 mos)                          | \$400/\$200 =                      | + \$0          |                    |                | 116/216   |
|  | (3 mos)                          | \$920/\$460 =                      |                |                    |                | 117/217   |
|  | (4 mos)                          | \$1,440/\$720 =                    |                |                    |                | 118/218   |
|  | (5 mos)                          | \$1,960/\$980 =                    |                |                    |                | 128/228   |
| 7. Enter any previous extension fee paid since above original due date and subtract  |                                  |                                    | - \$0          |                    |                |   |
| 8. <b>Extension Fee</b>  |                                  |                                    | + \$0          |                    |                |   |
| 9. If <b>Terminal Disclaimer</b> attached, add Rule 20(d) official fee .....   |                                  |                                    | + \$110/\$55   | + \$0              |                | 148/248   |
| 10. If IDS attached requires Official Fee under Rule 97 (c), .....   |                                  |                                    | + \$180        | + \$0              |                | 126   |
| or if Rule 97(d) Request .....   |                                  |                                    | + \$180        |                    |                | 126   |
| 11. After-Final Request Fee per rules 129(a) and 17(r) .....   |                                  |                                    | + \$740/370    | + \$0              |                | 146/246   |
| 12. No. of additional inventions for examination per Rule 129(b) .....   |                                  |                                    | x \$740/370 ea | + \$0              |                | 149/249   |
| 13. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) .....  |                                  |                                    | + \$740/370    | + \$0              |                | 1179/1279                                       |
| 14. Petition fee for .....   |                                  |                                    |                | + \$0              |                |   |
| 15. <b>TOTAL FEE =</b>   |                                  |                                    |                | <b>\$0</b>         |                |   |
| 16. *If the entry in this space is less than entry in next space, the "Present Extra" result is "0".   |                                  |                                    |                |                    |                | <b>PLEASE CHARGE<br/>         OUR DEP. ACCT</b> |
| 17. **If the "Highest number previously paid for" in this space is less than 20, write "20" in this space.   |                                  |                                    |                |                    |                |   |
| 18. ***If the "Highest number previously paid for" in this space is less than 3, write "3" in this space.  |                                  |                                    |                |                    |                |   |

Our Deposit Account No. 03-3975)

(Our Order No. 030268 0278094

C#

M#

**CHARGE STATEMENT:** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee specifically authorized hereafter, or any missing or insufficient fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and which may be required under Rules 16-18 (missing or insufficiencies only) now or hereafter relative to this application and the resulting Official Document under Rule 20, or credit any overpayment, to our Accounting/Order Nos. shown above, for which purpose a duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

This **CHARGE STATEMENT** does not authorize charge of the issue fee until/unless an issue fee transmittal sheet is filed.

Query: Is appeal deadline now? If so, file Notice of Appeals separately.

Pillsbury Winthrop LLP  
 Intellectual Property Group

By Atty: Richard A. Steinberg

Reg. No. 26,588

P.O. Box 10500  
 McLean, VA 22102  
 Tel: (703) 905-2000

Sig:

*Richard A. Steinberg*

Fax: (703) 905-2500  
 Tel: (703) 905-2039

Atty/Sec: RAS/DLL

NOTE: File this cover sheet in duplicate with PTO receipt (PAT-103A) and attachments

**RECEIVED**

DEC 30 2002

PAT-120 5/02

TC 1700



#11/C  
P.L.H.  
1-203

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION OF

Confirmation No.: 6854

AVIDES MOREIRA et al.

Group Art Unit:

Appln. No.:

Examiner:

Filed:

Title:

RECEIVED  
DEC 30 2002  
TC 1700

\* \* \* \* \*

AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 4, 2002, please amend the above  
identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

1. (Twice Amended) A process for fashioning a permanent connection  
between at least 2 components, at least one of said components being a thermoplastic sealing  
or connecting member obtained by molding a thermoplastic elastomeric material, at least one  
other component being a non-sealing member, said permanent connection being located at a  
desired location of said non-sealing member, comprising:

- a. stretching said sealing or connecting member;
- b. relaxing said stretched member from step (a);
- c. placing said member from step (b) at the desired location on said non-sealing  
member; and
- d. exposing said members from step (c) to an increased temperature of at most  
about 20 °C below the melting temperature of the thermoplastic elastomeric material.

Sub  
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